

Buddy Mondlock – Bio

Buddy Mondlock was born in 1959 in Evanston, which is located just North of Chicago. During Buddy's first year his parents lived in Chicago, before moving to the suburb of Park Forest on the South side of the city where he grew up. The eldest of four children, Buddy has two sisters and a brother. His mother played piano as did some older relations and regular musical gatherings would be held in the Mondlock home. At the age of eight, Buddy's father bought a guitar for his wife, as an anniversary present. For the ensuing two years Buddy would secretly practice on the guitar, early in the morning. Eventually the youngster started taking guitar lessons, where he learned songs by The Beatles, Peter, Paul & Mary and Paul Simon. Buddy has stated that he wrote his first song at the age of ten. By his High School years Buddy was listening to the music of America, CSN & Y and Cat Stevens, and performing in the trio Sail Away with his sisters Janice and Maribeth. He also attended open mics in Chicago, at the legendary Earl Of Old Town. After high school, Mondlock went on to study at the liberal arts St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland. After completing his College studies Buddy travelled to Europe – time spent in Rome is recalled in his song "The Cats Of The Coliseum."

The October 1985 issue of Fast Folk Musical Magazine saw Mondlock make his recording debut with, "Up In The Attic." Over the ensuing decade, a number of Fast Folk releases featured Buddy Mondlock penned tracks. During a Guy Clark hosted Ballad Tree song session at the 1986 Kerrville Folk Festival, Clark asked Mondlock for a tape of his songs. Back in Nashville, Clark passed the tape to Bob Doyle who worked for ASCAP at that time. Bob later set up his own company, and his earliest signings were Buddy Mondlock and Garth Brooks. Buddy was one of the six winners of the Kerrville Festival's, 1987 New Folk Songwriters competition. The same year, on tape only, Buddy co-produced and self-released his debut album, "**On The Line**," recorded at Lakeside Media in Chicago. In 1988 Buddy relocated to Nashville after signing a songwriting deal with SBK Publishing. These days Buddy writes for Major Bob Music. 1988 also saw Buddy make his Kerrville main-stage debut, and he has been a Festival regular ever since. One of his early writing partners in Nashville was New York bred folkie, Janis Ian, who by the late eighties had become a Tennessee resident.

"Fire Of Change," inspired by the forest colours in the Fall, became Buddy's first cover, when the Smith Sisters recorded it. The Garth Brooks album "**The Chase**" [1992] featured their co-write "Every Now and Then." Within weeks of its release the latter album reached No. 1 on the Billboard Top 200 and Country charts. Buddy's composition "Comin' Down In The Rain" was included on Nanci Griffith's 1993 folk Grammy winning collection "**Other Voices, Other Rooms**." The following year, the Irish based label Son Records, formed by the group U2, released Mondlock's sophomore solo recording. Self-titled, the collection was produced by Steve Addabbo. "The Kid" which had appeared on "**On The Line**" resurfaced on the second album, along with the Janis co-writes "Amsterdam" (covered by Joan Baez on her album "**Play Me Backwards**" [1992]) and "On The Edge." Apart from Ian, Buddy's second disc featured guest appearances by Garth Brooks, Shawn Colvin and Lucy Kaplansky. Ian included their co-write "Tenderness" on her album "**Revenge**" [1995].

During the middle part of the nineteen-nineties, Buddy appeared on a number of compilation albums and releases by other acts. On "**Follow That Road**" [1994], recorded during the second annual Martha's Vineyard Singer/Songwriters Retreat, Buddy performed his "Magnolia Street" as a duet with Jonathan Edwards. "**The Postscript**" [1995] featured his "My Aunt Anna," while Peter, Paul & Mary included "The Kid" on "**LifeLines**" [1995]. On the subsequent PBS television special, **Great Performances** Mondlock performed "The Kid" with Peter, Paul and Mary. When the trio released "**LifeLines Live**" [1996] as a CD and video, Buddy was featured singing his song. In 1996, Buddy appeared on the Carol Elliott album "**The People I Meet**." By way of returning the favour to another of his mentors, Buddy performed Christine Lavin's "Santa Monica Pier" on the tribute compilation "**Big League Babe – The Christine Lavin Tribute Album Pt. 1**" [1998]. The same year, the folk supergroup Cry Cry Cry cut "The Kid," and Mondlock appeared on a number of the trio's tour dates during 1999.

Released in late 1998 by Major Bob Productions, Buddy's third solo album was titled "**Poetic Justice**." The guest artists include Guy Clark, Nanci Griffith and Ellis Paul. The album was subsequently released in Canada and Europe by EMI. During 2001 Buddy was invited to work on an album project with Art Garfunkel. The resulting disc, titled "**Everything Waits To Be Noticed**," featured the voices of Garfunkel, Mondlock and Maia Sharp, was released in October 2002. Returning, almost, to where we

started his career as a professional musician, the 2002 album **“The Dark”** by Buddy’s first mentor, Guy Clark, featured their song collaborations “Mud” and the album title track. In 2002 Buddy re-released his 1994 self-titled album as a 2CD collection. **“Dressed Up”** was a straight reissue of the original album, while **“Stripped Down”** featured acoustic remixes of all the songs. During Spring 2007, Mondlock self-released his fourth solo album **“The Edge Of The World.”**

Discography :

solo: **“On The Line”** [1987] ; **“Buddy Mondlock”** [1994] ; **“Poetic Justice”** [1998] ; **“Dressed Up & Stripped Down”** 2CD reissue of **“Buddy Mondlock”** [2002] ; **“The Edge Of The World”** [2007] :

with Art Garfunkel and Maia Sharp: **“Everything Waits To Be Noticed”** [2002] :

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